



DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

News Release

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

WILLIAM J. AILA JR, CHAIRPERSON
Phone: (808) 587-0320
Fax: (808) 587-0390

For Immediate Release February 27, 2012

HAWAI'I RESIDENTS URGED TO TIGHTEN THE SEAL AGAINST WATER WASTE DURING "DETECT-A-LEAK WEEK"

State, Counties, team up to support water conservation efforts

HONOLULU - The State Commission on Water Resource Management (CWRM) is partnering with island county water departments and the Hawai'i Rural Water Association, to launch together "Detect-A-Leak Week," from March 11 to 17, 2012, to encourage all Hawai'i residents to check for water leaks at their homes, properties and workplaces.

"Nurturing and protecting Hawai'i's natural resources are ancient traditions in the islands, and water is the most valuable of these resources," said William J. Aila, Jr., CWRM Chairperson. "We must ensure that future generations have enough clean, fresh water to use. We can all do our part by conserving water and eliminating waste by finding and repairing leaks in our homes and places of work."

According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the average American home can waste more than 10,000 gallons of water every year from running toilets, dripping faucets and other household leaks. This can be significantly reduced in Hawai'i if all residents statewide check their plumbing fixtures for leaks.

"For more than 20 years, the Detect-A-Leak Week program has served as an excellent reminder to our customers to check for and repair leaks in their homes and on their properties, which helps preserve our water supply," said Ernest Lau, Board of Water Supply Manager and Chief Engineer. "Practicing water conservation by detecting and fixing leaks at home also helps to lower water and sewer bills."

"Leak detection is an important part of protecting our most precious resource. Join us in our efforts to find and fix leaks by doing your part at home and in your yard," said Quirino Antonio, Hawai'i Department of Water Supply Manager and Chief Engineer.

"With water rates going up, it is ever more important to deal with the leaks while they are small," said David Craddick, Kaua'i Department of Water Manager and Chief Engineer.

Maui Department of Water Supply Deputy Director Paul Meyer offered some practical advice: “Is your toilet running needlessly? Flapper valves wear out and it’s sometime hard to tell if you are wasting water. The DWS has free dye tablets with instructions for testing for leaking toilets. It’s easy to test for leaks and takes just a few minutes. Just turn off all your water uses and check your meter. If the dial is spinning, you have leaks that can be wasteful and expensive.”

There are three types of leaks that should be checked: toilet, property and underground leaks. For more information on how Detect-A-Leak Week is being observed on each island and for more tips on how to check for leaks at home, visit:

Board of Water Supply, City and County of Honolulu: www.boardofwatersupply.com

County of Hawai‘i Department of Water Supply: www.hawaiiidws.org

County of Kaua‘i Department of Water: www.kauaiwater.org

County of Maui Department of Water Supply: www.mauiwater.org

Hawai‘i Rural Water Association: www.hawaiiirwa.org

###

For more information news media may contact:

Deborah Ward, for Commission on Water Resource Management, 808-587-0320

Kanani Aton, County of Hawaii Department of Water Supply, 808-961-7204

Faith Shiramizu, County of Kauai Department of Water, 808-245-5461

Jacky Takakura, County of Maui Department of Water Supply, 808-270-8046

Kurt Tsue, Board of Water Supply, City and County of Honolulu, 808-748-5320

Karrie Lasater, Hawaii Rural Water Association, 808-495-0264